

# May

Magic Lantern Society  
US and Canada

NEWS 2016



Be Sure to LOOK for those Buttons and roll-over effects

## A Fair to Remember: Colored Lantern Slides at the 1915 Panama-Pacific International Exposition

<https://unwritten-record.blogs.archives.gov/2015/12/03/a-fair-to-remember-colored-lantern-slides-at-the-1915-panama-pacific-international-exposition/>



**NOTE** Lots of  
Inquires, please  
share any  
information you  
might have

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The National Archives has photographic records from many of the world's fairs. Few, however, are quite as striking as the colored lantern slides from the Panama Pacific International Exhibition.



## 2016 Convention Registration

17th International Convention  
**October 6-9, 2016**  
 Best Western Landmark Hotel, Metairie, LA  
 New Orleans, Louisiana, USA

Please return this form with your payment to:  
 Ron Easterday, 1380 Lena PL NE, Poulsbo WA,  
 USA 98370

A Registration Confirmation will be sent to you  
 after receipt of your registration

**Early Registration on or before  
 August 31, 2016 saves you money**

### Registration includes:

- Thursday evening Welcome Reception (cash bar)  
 at the Convention Hotel
- Lunch Friday, Saturday, and Sunday  
 at the Convention Hotel
- Saturday Evening Seafood Banquet buffet  
 at the Convention Hotel
- Presentations Friday, Saturday, and Sunday  
 at the Convention Hotel

## 2016 Convention

Magic Lantern Society of the United States and Canada  
[www.magiclanternsociety.org](http://www.magiclanternsociety.org)  
 17th International Convention  
 October 6-9, 2016  
 Best Western Landmark Hotel, Metairie, LA  
 New Orleans, Louisiana, USA

Please return this form with your payment to: Ron Easterday, 1380 Lena PL NE, Poulsbo WA, USA 98370  
 A Registration Confirmation will be sent to you after receipt of your registration.

Total Number of Registrants: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Registration includes:

- Thursday evening Welcome Reception (cash bar) at the Convention Hotel
- Lunch Friday, Saturday, and Sunday at the Convention Hotel
- Saturday Evening Seafood Banquet buffet at the Convention Hotel
- Presentations Friday, Saturday, and Sunday at the Convention Hotel
- Sunday afternoon tour of University of New Orleans Nims Center:  
 Robert E. Fleshman collection of Pre-Cinematographic Optical Devices

Member Registration on or before August 31, 2016 – No Saturday Banquet	x \$ 200.00 = \$	.00
Member Registration received after August 31, 2016	x \$ 160.00 = \$	.00
Non-Member Registration on or before August 31, 2016	x \$ 215.00 = \$	.00
Non-Member Registration received after August 31, 2016	x \$ 235.00 = \$	.00
Non-Member Registration on or before August 31, 2016 – No Saturday Banquet	x \$ 195.00 = \$	.00
Non-Member Registration received after August 31, 2016	x \$ 250.00 = \$	.00
Guest (Non-registered) Saturday Seafood Banquet buffet at the Convention Hotel	x \$ 50.00 = \$	.00
Guest (Non-registered) Sunday afternoon tour of University of New Orleans Nims Center	x \$ 15.00 = \$	.00
Guest (Non-registered) Robert E. Fleshman collection of Pre-Cinematographic Optical Devices	x \$ 20.00 = \$	.00
	x \$ 6.00 = \$	.00
	\$	.00

Dealer's Sales Tables  
 Service Charge if paying via PayPal - per number of registrations

**Total:**  
 Make checks payable to Magic Lantern Society of the US & Canada (MLS of US and Canada) in US dollars only, please.  
 PayPal Payments: Send to [secretary-treasurer@magiclanternsociety.org](mailto:secretary-treasurer@magiclanternsociety.org) and mail or email this form to  
[president@magiclanternsociety.org](mailto:president@magiclanternsociety.org)  
**Refunds:** Registrations will be fully refunded if canceled in writing on or before August 31, 2016.  
 Partial refunds may be possible up to Saturday, September 24, 2016. No refunds after Saturday, September 24, 2016.

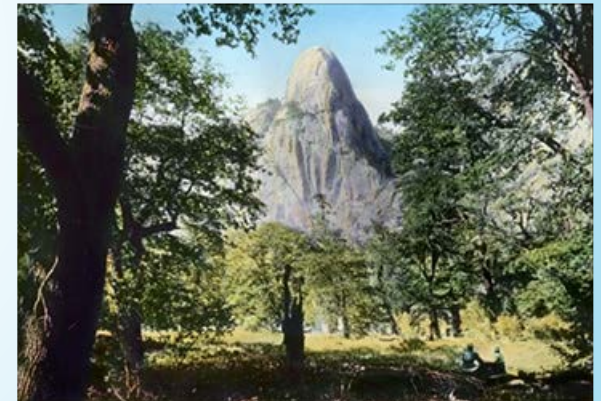
- Sunday afternoon tour of University of New Orleans  
 Nims Center:  
 Robert E. Fleshman collection of  
 Pre-Cinematographic Optical Devices

Email  
**Steve Barnes**  
[thesteve4@yahoo.com](mailto:thesteve4@yahoo.com)  
 or  
**Ron Easterday**  
[rlasterday@comcast.net](mailto:rlasterday@comcast.net)  
 for registration  
 form

## Before the dawn of modern photography, lanterns were the projectors of the past.



<https://huckberry.com/journal/posts/wilderness-lantern-slides>



images from the American Alpine Club photo library

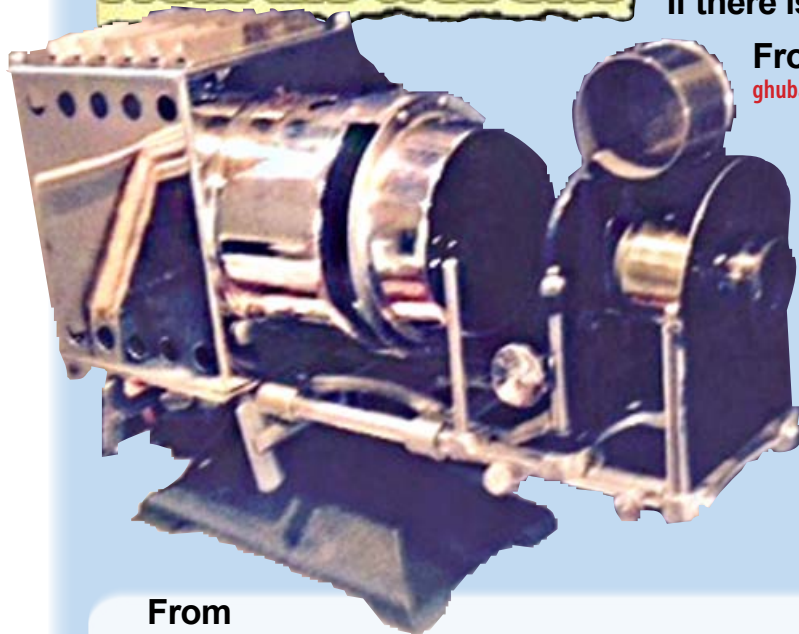
<http://www.alpine-club.org.uk/ac2/ac-media/library>

### *From Huckberry.com*

One could argue that without photo-sharing devices, the modern world would be infinitely less distracting and possibly more productive. However, our palm-sized digital oracles, with their sleek layouts and eight megapixel cameras (and all the dog and cat and food and baby photos we share with them) aren't going anywhere, so we might as well pay homage to the original photo-sharing device: the magic lantern slide.

# Inquiry

From the Web Site



## Great National No 1 Stereopticon serial 5800

If there is a manual that would be great!

From George Huban

[ghuban@athensacademy.org](mailto:ghuban@athensacademy.org)

I recently purchase this Magic lantern which came with the box and vintage film strips and glass slide holder. Is there a manual for this unit I could obtain? Any history on this Magic lantern ? . It looks very cool and almost new!! I have some glass slides I would like to show but am a little concerned about plunging it in...yours thoughts? Also I may be missing a lens and is there a source for parts? Thank you for any help on these issues!! George

From  
David Evans

Dear George

It certainly is a very grand affair! I don't see a shutter mechanism associated with the film path, so it appears to be a film strip/lantern slide projector rather than movie film/lantern slide. We will include it in our next monthly E-Publication and hope that our members may have more information on it. It might be a bit optimistic to hope for a manual, but one never knows.

In general any vintage electrical device should be checked carefully for electrical

safety before plugging in. It should be fitted with a three conductor power cord and metal parts should be connected to the ground conductor, or possibly any replacement illuminant should be low voltage for safety.

Thanks for your enquiry.

David Evans  
Secretary-treasurer  
The Magic Lantern Society of US & Canada

# Inquiry

From the Web Site

## Question

From: Neil Eddleman

[nnebge@verizon.net](mailto:nnebge@verizon.net)

I'm a collector of vintage fishing tackle and advertisements. Part of my advertisement collection consists of several magic lantern slides from the various fishing tackle vendors used to assist hardware stores in advertising locally their store and of course the vendor's fishing tackle. I'm looking for ways to project an enlarged view the slide's content without having to actually go the route of a magic lantern projector. Something low light, low heat that basically throws out a view of say 12 X 12 inches or something along that line. Thought of building a frame and then finding a TV magnifier so someone standing in front of a display cabinet could view the content without having to squint. Are there any options or suggestions that could help with my intent? Thanks Neil

From David Evans

Dear Neil

Thank you for your interesting enquiry. Apart from the obvious - scan and make prints of the slides - I can't come up with anything off the cuff, but have passed it on to a member who is a specialist in displays of various kinds to see if he has and suggestions.

Will let you know when I hear back from him.

David Evans  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Magic Lantern Society of US & Canada



## Prints From Lantern Slides

**From: WilliamGorton**

[wgorton@msn.com](mailto:wgorton@msn.com)

I have several lantern slides produced by roland reed of native american. Do you know of any who would be able to produces a print using paper of the period and sepia tone?  
Thanks you -Bill Gorton

**From David Evans**

Hello Bill

Finding paper of the period would be the main challenge, I would imagine. If you can find a photographer or studio that can still process negative film they should be able to do the job for you using modern paper, and they should have no problem with Sepia tint.

Alternatively, you can do the job digitally by scanning the slide and processing it with a photo editing software. I have produced several sepia tint images in this way.

Good luck with it.

David Evans  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Magic Lantern Society of US & Canada



**From Rob Hons**

[roberthons@comcast.net](mailto:roberthons@comcast.net)

I am looking for information on a projector and glass slides we still use at our Masonic Lodge. I can't find any marking on the projector. I could send photo.  
Thank you



## Projector and Glass Slides



Here are a couple of photos of our projector. The glass slide are in good shape also. We still use them from time to time. Any info would be appreciated for our records.

Thanks  
Rob

**From David Evans**

Hello Rob

Yes, please do send a photo or several. Several manufacturers produced lanterns specifically for lodge use. One of the more spectacular designs was made by Pettibone. There were sets of slides available for many types of lodge and Masonic sets were particularly splendidly produced. I shall look forward to seeing your pictures.

Thanks for contacting us.

David Evans  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Magic Lantern Society of US & Canada

Thank you for the pictures of your lodge lantern. It is not a model I particularly recognise but it is undoubtedly American, probably around the 1920s or so. If you have no objection, we could add it to our monthly E-Publication in the hope that one of our members will recognise it.

Several manufacturers produced models of this kind, the Victor Animatograph Company being one, but I certainly could not say if it is one of their's or not.

I am glad you still use it!

Regards

David Evans

## APPEAL FOR ASSISTANCE

I have just started work on producing an illustrated book of figurines that depict magic lantern and peepshow performers and other optical amusements. These figurines could be made from brass, porcelain, ivory, wood etc. The book will be aimed at collectors like you and me and therefore the print run will be very small. It will not be a commercial proposition and I will fund the production costs myself. I hope that the book will be published sometime next year.



I have a number of these figurines in my own collection and I have already approached those members who I know have figurines which are missing from my collection. However there will be other collections I do not know about and the purpose of this email is to ask that you let me know if you have any figurines in your own collection that could be included in this book. My aim is to include all known figurines although as we all know there will be examples out there waiting to be discovered.

If you think you have something that could be of interest and you are happy to be involved please email me at [lmh.smith@magiclanternsocy.demon.co.uk](mailto:lmh.smith@magiclanternsocy.demon.co.uk)

Mike Smith

## Best Scholarly History of Magic Lantern

### From Kirstyn Leuner

[kirstyn.leuner@gmail.com](mailto:kirstyn.leuner@gmail.com)

Greetings! I'm a scholar of Romantic-era media at Dartmouth College, and I'm writing to learn what the Society considers to be the best scholarly account of the history of the magic lantern, from its origins through the nineteenth century. I would be grateful for your recommendations.

With my thanks,  
Kirstyn Leuner  
Postdoctoral Fellow, Neukom Institute and  
Dept. of English  
Dartmouth College

### From David Evans

Dear Kirstyn

There are numerous books on the history of the magic lantern and it would be hard to say which is the best account. Members would probably find it hard to agree on the best, as each will have his own opinion on the matter.

The classic work is 'Movement in Two Dimensions' by Olive Cooke and many lantern enthusiasts would have that on their shelves. We could add your query to our monthly E-Publication and ask members for their suggestions.

Regards

David Evans  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Magic Lantern Society of US & Canada

## Auguste Edouart's The Magic Lantern

**From: Ilka Saal**

ilka.saal@utoronto.ca

Hello,

In the process of doing research on the silhouette artist Auguste Edouart, I have come across a picture by him entitled "The Magic Lantern" (1861/62). Here is a link to this art work in the collection of The Met, New York:

<http://metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/365307>

Could you kindly tell me what kind of magic lantern is projected here?

A moving image perhaps? And what kind of portfolio or container might the gentleman in the left-hand foreground be holding on his knees? A container for magic lantern slides? Or some other equipment that aligns him with the projectionist? I'd be so very grateful if you could help me decipher this image.

Thank you very much!

Sincerely,  
Ilka Saal



Dear Ilka

The picture is entitled 'Gallantee Show' which does provide a clue. Gallantee showmen were itinerants who travelled around Europe in the hope that they might be invited into large houses, theatres etc to provide an hour or so of entertainment. They would carry the lantern (around 1861 would be about right looking at the shape of it - a phantasmagoria type lantern, with an oil illuminant) slide box etc on their backs and the gentleman in the foreground has a musical instrument of some kind to add to the entertainment. I am sure that Google would provide you with much information about Gallantee showmen.

Good luck with the research.

David Evans  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Magic Lantern Society of US & Canada

## New Lantern

**From David Maclean**

[tinner1830@hotmail.com](mailto:tinner1830@hotmail.com)

Hi; been working on build from ground up lanterns that uses the new Coleman Northstar propane lantern for light. The proto type tested ok so I am now working on the real thing. When done will send a story on it. Hope to have light data as I have a light meter now. The design is loosely based on various early to mid 19th century types and should be ok for my Civil War era set-up

David



## Handle with Care: Glass Plate Negative and Lantern Slide Collections at the SU Archives



[http://archives.syr.edu/exhibits/glassplate\\_about.html](http://archives.syr.edu/exhibits/glassplate_about.html)



Spectators at an SU football game in Archbold Stadium, with Crouse College and Holden Observatory in the background, ca. late 1920s. This is a hand-colored lantern slide. [Image: 09-0901]



"El Capitan in Profile, Yosemite Valley," a hand-colored lantern slide possibly used for educational purposes, undated. [Image: 09-1155]

## Looking for Demonstrations

**From: Adam Arnold**

[adam.arnold@tpwd.texas.gov](mailto:adam.arnold@tpwd.texas.gov)

I work at Washington-on-the-Brazos SHS, Washington, TX where we focus on the 1830-1850 period. We are interested in adding a magic lantern demonstration to one or more of our events. Can you recommend any one who might be able to help with this?

Thank you  
Adam Arnold

**From David Evans**

Hello Adam

I suggest you contact Jack Judson [castle@magiclanterns.org](mailto:castle@magiclanterns.org) who has a specialist magic lantern museum in San Antonio, TX. He only opens the museum by appointment these days, but I am sure you will find him helpful.

Regards

David Evans  
Secretary-Treasurer,  
MLS of US & C

# Inquiry

From the Web Site

## From Clive Walker

clivewalker59@gmail.com

Good Morning,

I was wondering if you could assist me please? Many years ago (nearly 50) an Aunt of mine gave me two boxes of slides which had been used by the Salvation Army in the UK and have been in the loft / attic virtually since then, I would love to know what they are or depict ( they seem to be lots of buildings and social studies) and why they were used here in the UK. The two boxes of slides seem to be identical but the picture angle is fractionally different from slide to slide, again interested to know why? There are around 80 slides in total. Apologies I can't attach pictures to this mail to show what I'm talking about, but would be more than happy too if I can have a different contact?

Many thanks for taking the time to read the above

Best Regards

Clive Walker



## Slides of the USA

David,

Thank you so much for the really quick reply, I've had another look at the slides and in the corner is a London company address (now am confused and interested).

They are 3 1/4" and all B&W, have taken some photo's with my mobile, excuse the quality had to take against a wall so there may be some light reflection. I think your probably correct in your mail about way of life and temperance, although my Aunt always had a glass of sherry when she visited (think Dad was testing her).

Anyway take a look please, any info will be gratefully received.

Regards

Clive Walker



Good Morning Mr Walker

Yes, interesting question. I assume they are 3 1/4" square and black & white photographs? The Salvation Army and other religious bodies often used slides in the temperance movement and to encourage church attendance but also they and others, especially the railways, used slides to encourage young people to emigrate to all the wonderful advantages of the young North American continent, so it might be something along those lines.

Please do send some images - it might well help with identification. Also a note of any markings on the slides, such as titles, maker's names, trade marks etc could also help.

Thanks for contacting us.

David Evans

Secretary-treasurer

The Magic Lantern Society of US & Canada

*continued next page*

## Slides of the USA Continued

### From David Evans

Dear Clive

Thanks for the images - certainly of USA. Interesting that the map states 'Prepared by the Ministry of Information in co-operation with the US Office of War Information'. One wonders which war.

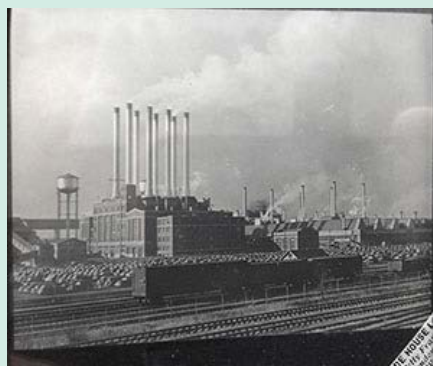
I have not been able to find much about The Slide House, except that they were located at 60 Petty France in the City of Westminster, London, and were still producing lantern slides in the post War period (1940s). A set of 8 slides advertising 1940s cars exists, made for a garage in Burnley, Lancashire.

It may be that the war mentioned on your slides could be WWII, though they look earlier than that, so maybe WWI.

It may be that one of our members may have further information on The Slide House.

Regards

David



Hello Clive

I would say undoubtedly 1940s, so The Slide House must have been late in the lantern slide era. We'll put some of the images in our monthly E-Publication so that members can perhaps comment on them, if that is OK with you.

Regards

David



Hopefully you or your members can ID the vehicles shown (which may give us a decade at least). I can't find anything referencing the Slide house of London but will keep trying, will let you know if I turn anything up.

Regards  
Clive W

## From Mary Foster

[marye\\_foster@hotmail.com](mailto:marye_foster@hotmail.com)

902-675-3080

Asking Price: \$600 USD + shipping NOTE: I reside on Prince Edward Island, Canada C0A1H9 I am selling my Luna Magic Lantern.

David Evans, Magic Lantern Society of US & Canada, has been most helpful in identifying the maker, Johann Falk of Nuremburg, Germany c. 1895. Approx. measurements with extended chimney are 11 3/4" x 3.5" x 5". The front ceramic tile is floral. There are 2 side ceramic tiles: one depicts a young boy with a dog, and the second depicts a young girl with a dog.



## LUNA MAGIC LANTERN FOR SALE

The background colour for all three tiles is a cream colour. Please refer to photos. The back plate reads: LUNA D.R.G.M. No. 192102 Patented in U.S.A. I think the photos speak for themselves. My Luna is in good overall used condition; however, is missing the burner, one claw foot (metal pivot heel is intact), and the lens needs to be soldered onto the body. It obviously was well loved during its day! It comes with 17 glass slides. For additional information, please contact me at [marye\\_foster@hotmail.com](mailto:marye_foster@hotmail.com) or (902) 675-3080



## From David Evans

Hello Mary

Your lantern was made by Johann Falk of Nuremburg, Germany around 1895 or thereabouts. The prices you mention are in the right range, though with the faults you mention yours might be nearer the lower end of the range. The ceramic parts look in good condition, which is the most important aspect.

Would you wish us to include it in our monthly E-Publication, which goes to all members? Would you specify an asking price or leave it open to offers?

Regards

David

*A Big Thank You to the following:*

Adam Arnold  
Neil Eddleman  
Mary Foster  
David Evans  
William Gorton  
Rob Hons  
George Huban  
Kirstyn Leuner  
David MacLean  
Ilka Saal  
Mike Smith  
Clive Walker

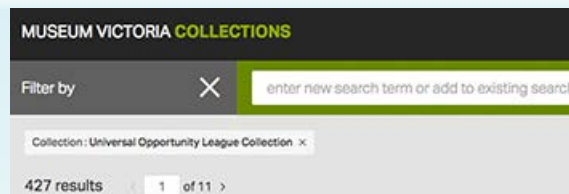
*for contributing to this month's issue.*

## Welcome New Members

### Nick Van Helsdingen

from 100 Mile House,  
British Columbia, Canada  
email is [nick@vanhelsdingen.net](mailto:nick@vanhelsdingen.net).

## 'Great Party Rally', circa 1930s



<http://collections.museumvictoria.com.au/search?collection=Universal+Opportunity+League+Collection>

*A site with some great slide images!*



Lantern slide of cartoon of the vestibule of a political rally. Made by Alex. Gunn & Sons, Melbourne, Victoria, circa 1930s.

One of a set of over 420 lantern slides, used by lecturer Walter S. Binks, a popular psychology and vocational guidance lecturer based in Melbourne, Victoria. Binks gave lectures throughout Australia in the 1930s and 1940s. Binks advertised his lectures as associated with the Australasian Opportunity League or Universal Opportunity League.